

45088

Application No. 10/651,205

Amendment Dated November 22, 2006

Reply to Decision on Appeal of September 25, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

Claim 8 is currently amended, and claims 1 – 7, 17, 22 and 29 - 30 are canceled. Claims 8 – 16, 18 – 21 and 23 – 28 are currently pending in the application, with claims 8, 23 and 26 being independent. No new matter has been added to the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

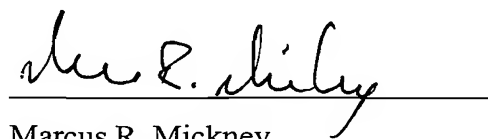
The September 25, 2006 Decision on Appeal notes that claims 17 and 22 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, and claims 23 – 28 are allowed.

Independent claim 8 has been amended to include the limitation of dependent claim 17. Therefore, claims 8 – 16, 18 – 21 and 23 - 28 are now in condition for allowance.

* * *

In view of the foregoing explanations and comments, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8 – 16, 18 – 21 and 23 – 28 are allowable over the cited patents. Prompt and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



Marcus R. Mickney
Reg. No. 44,941

Roylance, Abrams, Berdo & Goodman, L.L.P.
1300 19th Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 659-9076
Dated: NOVEMBER 22, 2006